

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

 International Application No
 PCT/EP2004/008841

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
 IPC 7 G06F9/46

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 G06F H04L

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, IBM-TDB

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	IBM TECHNICAL DISCLOSURE BULLETIN, IBM CORP. NEW YORK, US, vol. 39, no. 12, December 1996 (1996-12), pages 41-42, XP000686013 ISSN: 0018-8689 the whole document page 2, line 20 - line 25 page 2, line 29 - line 31 page 2, line 33 - line 41	1-9
X	US 6 438 614 B2 (ARNOLD KENNETH ET AL) 20 August 2002 (2002-08-20) column 3, line 10 - line 62; claims 1-22 column 7, line 37 - line 42; figure 4	1-9
X	US 6 052 779 A (JACKSON FREDERICK SAMUEL ET AL) 18 April 2000 (2000-04-18) column 4, line 27 - line 42	1

 Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

 Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- *X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
- *&* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

27 December 2004

Date of mailing of the International search report

11/01/2005

Name and mailing address of the ISA

 European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
 Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,
 Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Dieben, M

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No	
PCT/EP2004/008841	

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date	
US 6438614	B2	15-11-2001	US 2001042091 A1	15-11-2001
		AU 2876899 A	15-09-1999	
		CN 1292192 T	18-04-2001	
		EP 1072140 A2	31-01-2001	
		JP 2002505553 T	19-02-2002	
		WO 9944334 A2	02-09-1999	
		US 6708171 B1	16-03-2004	
		AU 2680299 A	15-09-1999	
		AU 2680399 A	15-09-1999	
		AU 2680499 A	15-09-1999	
		AU 2686699 A	15-09-1999	
		AU 2686799 A	15-09-1999	
		AU 2766199 A	15-09-1999	
		AU 2769899 A	15-09-1999	
		AU 2770199 A	15-09-1999	
		AU 2770299 A	15-09-1999	
		AU 2770399 A	15-09-1999	
		AU 2770499 A	15-09-1999	
		AU 2770599 A	15-09-1999	
		AU 2787699 A	15-09-1999	
		AU 2787799 A	15-09-1999	
		AU 2787899 A	15-09-1999	
		AU 2876999 A	15-09-1999	
		AU 2878399 A	15-09-1999	
		AU 2878499 A	15-09-1999	
		AU 3297199 A	15-09-1999	
		AU 3297299 A	15-09-1999	
		AU 3300499 A	15-09-1999	
		AU 3300599 A	15-09-1999	
		AU 3309199 A	15-09-1999	
		CN 1292115 T	18-04-2001	
		CN 1292116 T	18-04-2001	
		CN 1292113 T	18-04-2001	
		CN 1292117 T	18-04-2001	
		CN 1292118 T	18-04-2001	
		CN 1298502 T	06-06-2001	
		CN 1298503 T	06-06-2001	
		CN 1298504 T	06-06-2001	
		CN 1298505 T	06-06-2001	
		CN 1298523 T	06-06-2001	
		CN 1298524 T	06-06-2001	
		CN 1298506 T	06-06-2001	
		CN 1298507 T	06-06-2001	
		CN 1298508 T	06-06-2001	
		CN 1298509 T	06-06-2001	
		CN 1298510 T	06-06-2001	
		CN 1298511 T	06-06-2001	
		CN 1298512 T	06-06-2001	
		CN 1298513 T	06-06-2001	
		CN 1298514 T	06-06-2001	
US 6052779	A	18-04-2000	GB 2328046 A	10-02-1999